

Aerospace Optometry

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Recent Evolution of the Program

- The Aerospace Optometry Curriculum was approved by BUMED/NMETC in 2003.
- Navy Optometrists are now winged as Aerospace Optometrists upon completion of the Aeromedical Officer Course at NAMI, NAS Pensacola.

Existing Billets

- NAMI, NAS Pensacola - 2 Billets
- NAMRL, NAS Pensacola - 1 Billet
- Refractive Surgery Center San Diego - 1 Billet
- The above billets will remain intact.

Business Case Analysis, 6AN

- The BCA, co-authored by LCDR Cooley and LCDR Whitwell, afforded Navy Optometry the opportunity to re-code an additional five existing billets to Aerospace Optometry billets.
- The selection of the first billets was decided by aviation assets at the following Naval Air Stations:

Aerospace Optometry Billets

- Phase I:
 - BMC Oceana
 - NH Oak Harbor
 - NH Lemoore
 - NH Jacksonville
 - NH Yokosuka

Billets, cont.

- At the present the following Aerospace Optometrists, or Student Aerospace Optometrists have been assigned:
 - LT Zeber - BMC Oceana (Feb 05)
 - LCDR Cooley - Oak Harbor (Jun 05)
 - LT Birt - NH Lemoore (Sep 05)
 - LT Im - NH Yokosuka (Apr 06)
- NH Jax remains unfilled at this time.

Billets, cont.

- Phase II?
 - Re-code to Aerospace Optometry billets for the major Marine Corps Air Stations.
- Overall emphasis is to place Aerospace Optometrists in regional areas to manage the aviation vision and vision readiness programs as Subject Matter Experts.

The Future

- The possibility of developing augmentation platforms for carrier air wing support by Aerospace Optometrists
 - Deploy with the carrier air wings during the six month deployments (TAD)
 - Perform the same shore duties during non-deployable periods
- Preserves billets and allows for deployment coverage

Aviation Optometry, AQD

6GA

- LCDR Cooley developed a Distance Learning Program for Aviation Optometry in 2004.
 - Allows the ability to train all Navy Optometrists
- Presently, under continued review at NOMI HQ

Aviation Optometry, cont.

- NOMI HQ is interested in re-developing this program as Joint Training with USAF and USA Optometrists
 - Falls in line with Sea Power 21
- Endeavors are continuing to present distance learning to the fleet and joint services

The Interim Answer

- Operational Optometry Web Site
 - With the support of CAPT Engle and CDR Barrette, an addition to the Navy Optometry Home Page will be Operational Optometry
 - Provides pertinent information to all Navy Optometrists
 - Navy Optometry involvement in **Post-Op PRK for Aviation** will be the first topic

Operational Optometry, cont.

- Navy Optometrists are encouraged to provide additional training programs
 - Presentations are to be in power point format, and voice over
 - Send the presentation to NAMI Optometry and SL for review and submission for entrance on the web site.
 - If voice over to be performed at NAMI, send the script of the presentation

NAMI Staff Members

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